Attorney Docket No.: 018547019420 Client Reference No.: 3014.1

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Address" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Examiner:

S.W. Houtteman

DAVID J. LOCKHART et al.

Art Unit:

1655

Application No.: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Filed: Herewith

For: NUCLEIC ACID ANALYSIS

TECHNIQUES

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 18-45 without prejudice.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Liebeschuetz

Reg. No. 37,505 TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW

LLP

Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor San Francisco, California 94111-3834